

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 659

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 KUALA LUMPUR 4268

(CORRECTED COPY-TAGS INFORMATION)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEAN, MY

SUBJECT: ASEAN: 2ND CONFERENCE OF ASEAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY, KUALA LUMPUR JULY 19-20, 1975

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. FOLLOWING JOINT PRESS RELEASE
ISSUED AT CLOSE OF SUBJECT MEETING:

"A. THE SECOND CONFERENCE OF THE ASEAN CHAMBERS OF COM-
MERCE AND INDUSTRY (ASEAN-CCI) WAS HELD IN KUALA LUMPUR
ON 19TH AND 20TH JULY, 1975. IT WAS DECLARED OPEN
BY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE PRIME MINISTER, TUN HAJI
ABDUL RAZAK BIN HUSSEIN. THE CONFERENCE WAS PRE-
CEDED BY THE THIRD COUNCIL MEETING ON 18TH JULY, 1975,
PRESIDED OVER BY HIS EXCELLENCY, AIR CHIEF MARSHAL
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SUWOTO SUKENDAR, PRESIDENT OF THE ASEAN-CCI. THE CON-

ERENCE WAS ATTENDED BY 122 DELEGATES FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTING COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY IN THE ASEAN COUNTRIES.

"B. THE CONFERENCE EXPRESSED ITS DEEP APPRECIATION TO THE RT. HON'BLE THE PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA FOR HIS INSPIRING PRESENCE, HIS DEEP DEVOTION TO THE CONCEPT OF ECONOMIC REGIONALISM WITHIN ASEAN AND THE UNTIRING EFFORTS WHICH HE HAS MADE TO ACHIEVE THIS END.

"C. AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY, THE HON'BLE TENGKU RAZALEIGH HAMZAH, CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF MALAYSIA, WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ASEAN-CCI FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS. A VICE-PRESIDENT FROM EACH CONSTITUENT MEMBER WAS ELECTED.

"D. THE CONFERENCE RECEIVED AND DELIBERATED UPON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WHICH HIGHLIGHTED THE DEVELOPMENTS IN RESPECT OF THE PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE ORGANIZATION DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW. THE CONFERENCE EXPRESSED ITS DEEP APPRECIATION TO INDONESIA FOR THE INITIATIVE TAKEN IN LAYING A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR THE ASEAN-CCI.

"E. THE CONFERENCE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH AREAS OF MUTUAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION INCLUDING SELECTIVE TRADE LIBERALISATION, INDUSTRIAL COMPLEMENTATION, SHIPPING, BANKING AND TOURISM. THE CONFERENCE RESOLVED TO ESTABLISH WORKING GROUPS TO COVER THE VARIOUS AREAS DISCUSSED AND AUTHORISED THE PRESIDENT TO CONVENE THE MEETINGS OF THESE WORKING GROUPS.

"F. THE CONFERENCE APPROVED AMENDMENTS TO THE AZEAN-CCI CONSTITUTION AND ADOPTED A PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS AS FOLLOWS:-

"(1) TO STUDY AND RECOMMEND WAYS AND MEANS OF STRENGTHENING THE ORGANIZATION OF ASEAN-CCI TO MAKE IT A MEANINGFUL BODY.

"(2) TO STUDY WHETHER, AND, IF SO, TO WHAT EXTENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ASEAN-CCI AS A REGIONAL GROUPING SHOULD AFFILIATE OR ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL OR OTHER REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

"(3) TO CO-OPERATE WITH ASEAN PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (ASEAN-PCCI) IN STUDYING FURTHER POSSIBILITIES OF TRADE LIBERALISATION WITHIN ASEAN.

"(4) TO CO-OPERATE WITH ASEAN-PCCI IN STUDYING FURTHER POSSIBILITIES FOR INDUSTRIAL COMPLEMENTARITY WITHIN

ASEAN, RELATING, IN PARTICULAR, TO AUTOMOTIVE MANUFACTURE,
STEEL, CHEMICALS, DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS,
CEMENT, GLASS, PULP AND PAPER, AND APPLIANCES.

"(5) TO MAINTAIN LIAISON WITH THE APPROPRIATE PERMANENT
COMMITTEES AND OTHER AD HOC COMMITTEES WITHIN ASEAN TO
MONITOR PROGRESS ON REGIONAL CO-OPERATION IN SHIPPING,
BANKING AND TOURISM.

"(6) TO CONTINUE TO STUDY ON THE ALIGNMENT OF CUSTOMS
PROCEDURES IN ASEAN AND THE VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTIONS GOVERNING CUSTOMS PROCEDURES AND FORMALI-
TIES WITH A VIEW TO ADOPTING A COMMON VIEWPOINT AND
MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO ASEAN-PCCI.

"(7) TO STUDY THE VARIOUS CONVENTIONS GOVERNING THE
INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY WITH
A VIEW TO ADOPTING A COMMON VIEWPOINT AND MAKING RECOM-
MENDATIONS TO ASEAN-PCCI.

"&. THE CONFERENCE RECOGNISED THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN
ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH ALL OTHER RELEVANT ORGANISATIONS
WITHIN ASEAN FRAMEWORK, WHOSE ACTIVITIES HAVE A BEARING
ON THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF THE ASEAN-CCI IN ORDER TO
ENSURE A MORE CO-ORDINATED APPROACH AND SPEEDIER PROGRESS
IN ALL FIELDS OF ECONOMIC ENDEAVOURS.

"H. THE CONFERENCE ACCEPTED THE OFFER BY THE PHILIPPINE
DELEGATION TO HOST THE THIRD CONFERENCE IN MANILA
WHICH WILL BE HELD IN 1977.

"I. THE CONFERENCE EXPRESSED ITS APPRECIATION TO THE
HOST CHAMBER, THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLES OF MALAYSIA
FOR THE HOSPITALITY ACCORDED, EXCELLEN FACILITIES PRO-
VIDED AND ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR THE CONFERENCE.

"J. THE CONFERENCE WAS CONDUCTED IN THE TRADITIONAL
CORDIAL SPIRIT OF ASEAN."
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2. IN OPENING ADDRESS JULY 19, PM RAZAK NOTED THAT ASEAN GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEES ARE TASKED TO DRAW BROAD POLICIES AND CREATE CONDITIONS FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION; CITED RECENT ASEAN ACTIONS INCLUDING ADOPTION BY ASEAN MINISTERS OF GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF INDUSTRIAL COMPLEMENTATION SCHEME AND JOINT ASEAN APPROACHES TO EEC, JAPAN AND MTN; BUT CONCLUDED THAT SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF ASEAN PROJECTS DEPENDS IN MAIN ON PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION, BOTH IN TERMS OF IMPLEMENTING ITS OWN PROJECTS AND PROVIDING ESSENTIAL FEEDBACK FROM PRIVATE SECTOR TO GOVERNMENTS.

3. IN INFORMAL MEETING WITH PRESS, RAZALEIGH NOTED THAT ASEAN COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN GETTING SHORT END IN TRADE DEALINGS WITH DC'S, ASKED RHETORICALLY IF IT NOT TIME FOR ASEAN TO PULL TOGETHER TO ENSURE MAXIMUM BENEFIT FROM NATURAL RESOURCES EXPLOITATION, STATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT ASEAN GOVERNMENTS SHOULD UNDERSTAND AND SUPPORT BASIC ECONOMIC POLICIES OF MEMBER COUNTRIES, AND SET AS IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE OF ASEAN ESTABLISHMENT OF FREE TRADE AREA LEADING ULTIMATELY TO ASEAN COMMON MARKET. END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. COMMENT. SELECTION OF RAZALEIGH (RECENTLY DESIGNATED "FATHER OF MALAYSIAN ECONOMY") AS PRESIDENT ASEAN-CCI SHOULD PRO-

VIDE STRONG, ENERGETIC LEADERSHIP FOR NEXT TWO YEARS.
PRINCIPAL CONFERENCE ORGANIZER INFORMED ECON COUNSELOR
THAT GOM INTENTIONS IS TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT SUBSTANTIVE
PROGRESS TOWARD GOALS DURING TWO-YEAR TERM OF MALAYSIAN
STEWARDSHIP. SOURCE FURTHER STATED THAT INDIVIDUAL
MEMBERS OF WORKING GROUPS NOW EXPECTED TO DO
HOMEWORK IN DETAIL ON SUGGESTED AREAS IN PREPARATION
FOR YET UNANNOUNCED MEETING OF COUNCIL OF WORKING
GROUPS TO BE HELD MANILA IN NOVEMBER 1975. ESTABLISH-
MENT OF PREFERENTIAL TRADE ARRANGEMENTS WITHIN ASEAN
HAS, OF COURSE, LONG BEEN MENTIONED AS GOAL
AND, WHILE IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF AGREEMENTS CAN BE
REACHED, WE MAY HAVE TO DETERMINE OUR OWN POSTURE ON
THIS SOONER THAN HERETOFORE INDICATED. END LIMITED
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